

Comment on the proposed conservation of LORISIDAE Gray, 1821 and GALAGIDAE Gray, 1825 (Mammalia, Primates) as the correct original spellings
(Case 3004; see BZN 55: 165–168; 56: 73)

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Regretfully, we have to stand against this proposal.

Since one of us (Jenkins, 1987) pointed out that the correct original spellings of the names previously written 'LORISIDAE' and 'GALAGIDAE' are actually LORIDAE and GALAGONIDAE, at least four influential works (Corbet & Hill, 1992; Groves, 1993; Rowe, 1996; McKenna & Bell, 1997) have adopted the new spellings. It is not as if these were family-group names based on different nominal genera: they are just different ways of forming family-group names from the same nominal genera. There is no likelihood of confusion. Unless there is a good reason the rules of nomenclature should be followed.

We also point out that Jenkins (1987) noted that there are three other necessary changes consequent on the adoption of correct original spellings: INDRIDAE (for 'INDRIIDAE'), STREPSIRRHINI (for 'STREPSIRHINI') and HAPLORRHINI (for 'HAPLORHINI'). There are no proposals to conserve the previously familiar spellings of the names in these cases, yet there does not seem to be any difference between the two sets of names that would justify an application to the Commission in the one case but not in the other.

The Commission is requested to reject the proposal.

Additional references

- Groves, C.P. 1993. Order Primates. In Wilson, D.E. & Reeder, D.M. (Eds.), *Mammal species of the world. A taxonomic and geographic reference*, Ed. 2. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington.
- McKenna, M.C. & Bell, S.K. 1997. *Classification of mammals above the species level*. Columbia University Press, New York.
- Rowe, N. 1996. *The pictorial guide to the living primates*. Pogonias Press, East Hampton, New York.